

From: Scott Forbes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 5:47am
Subject: Microsoft settlement

To whom it may concern:

The proposed settlement advanced by the Department of Justice does nothing to remedy the effects of Microsoft's anti-competitive practices, and given Microsoft's track record with anti-trust litigation holds little hope of actually preventing Microsoft from continuing to illegally extend its monopoly. I am disappointed by the DoJ's decision to propose a settlement that leaves Microsoft still in possession of its ill-gotten gains, and still in a position to destroy the public benefit gained by the existence of innovative and competitive companies such as Palm Computing, Apple Computer, Netscape Communications, Novell, Borland, Lotus and many others who have suffered at the hands of Microsoft's illegal activities.

The only true remedy to Microsoft's practices is to require the company to publish the source code to its operating system products. This would immediately eliminate Microsoft's ability to illegally leverage its OS monopoly, and impose a financial penalty on the company that appropriately fits the crime. The resulting economic benefits and innovations that would come from having a competitive OS marketplace are compelling, and I urge the DoJ to consider them as it withdraws the proposed settlement and instead proposes one that is more acceptable to the public.

Sincerely,
-- Scott Forbes